

Amendments To The Drawings:

The original sheets filed that include figures 1, 4 and 5 have been amended to identify the figures as "Prior Art".

Replacement sheets that incorporate the above amendments to Figures 1, 4 and 5 are provided herewith on separate pages.

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 have been canceled. Claims 18-37 are presented for examination and Applicants have amended claims 18, 30 and 37. The Examiner has rejected claims 18 - 37. In view of the foregoing amendments and arguments, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims.

Response to the §101 Rejections:

The Examiner has rejected claims 18-29 under 35 U.S.C. §101 stating that the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants have amended claim 18 to produce a tangible result.

Response to the §102 Rejections:

The Examiner has rejected claims 18, 23, 24, 28-33, 35 and 37 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Twerdochlib et al. (USPN 5,479,826). Applicants have amended claims 18, 30 and 37 to include the limitation of analyzing the received electromagnetic wave by the at least one analyzer to effect an evaluation of the reflection surface used for determining blade or vane stress via frequency analysis. In contrast, Twerdochlib et al. discloses a method for monitoring blade vibration via time domain interval analysis.

Applicants contend that Twerdochlib et al. does not teach nor suggest the performing stress analysis let alone determining a stress via a frequency analysis, therefore Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the §102(b) rejections.

Response to the §103 Rejections:

The Examiner has rejected claims 19-22, 25-27, 34 and 36 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over by Twerdochlib et al. in view of Harrold et al. (USPN 6,512,379), further in view of Grey (USPN 4,131,889) and further in view of Leon (USPN 4,422,333). Applicants have amended the independent claims 18 and 30, as discussed above, that claims 19-22, 25-27, 34 and 36 depend.

Regarding claim 20, the Examiner contends that some unspecified portion of Harrold et al. discloses the limitations recited in claim 20. However, the Examiner does not indicate which of the host of things discussed in Harrold et al. corresponds to the limitations recited in claim 20. "When a reference is complex ... the particular part relied on must be designated as nearly as

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practicable. The pertinence ... must be explained.” 37 CFR §1.104(c)(2). Here the Examiner does not identify any text in Harrold et al. where the claimed limitations are supposedly disclosed. Since Applicants can only speculate the Examiners view and in an effort to advance prosecution, Applicants note that no portion of Harrold discloses the limitations recited in claim 20. In fact, Applicants respectfully submit that Harrold et al.: 1) teaches condition monitoring a coating of blades and vanes via self generated radio frequency signals and 2) does not teach analyzing a received electromagnetic wave for determining the stress of a turbine component. Therefore Applicants respectfully submit that the Harrold et al. provides no further teaching or suggestion over Twerdochlib et al. and respectfully requests the Examiner to clarify and cite where Harrold et al. provides the further limitations recited tin claim 20.

Dependant claims 19-22, 25-27, 34 and 36 are also patentable based on their dependency from independent claims 18 and 30 as well as on their own merit.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of claims 18 - 37.

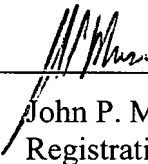
Conclusion

For the forgoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections submitted in the outstanding Office Action are inapplicable to the present claims.

The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees due in connection with this paper, including the fees specified in 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 (c), 1.17(a)(1) and 1.20(d), or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2179.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 5/7/07

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